

Table 1. Percent of Students Who Met College Readiness Benchmarks

Year	Number of Students Tested Michigan	Percent Who Met Benchmarks				
		English Michigan	Mathematics Michigan	Reading Michigan	Science Michigan	Met All Four Michigan
2016	115,454	60	36	40	35	23
2015	118,555	59	34	40	34	22
2014	119,990	59	35	36	33	22
2013	120,451	57	35	37	33	21
2012	114,727	59	36	45	26	21
2011	116,823	58	35	44	26	20
2010	120,930	56	33	40	25	19
2009	121,982	54	31	40	24	18
2008	123,918	55	31	41	23	17

- Many institutions use the default recommendation provided by ACT to set their institutions' placement scores. ACT sets this default score as a 75% chance of obtaining a C or better in a credit-bearing college course.
- In this way, the benchmark standards created by ACT (shown above in Table 1) can be used as one way to understand overall remedial and unpreparedness needs of Michigan high school students.
- 2008 and 2009 would serve as good benchmark years for pre-Michigan Merit Curriculum (MMC) years.
- 2010 should probably be considered a 'transition' year. The remaining years can be used to show how Michigan students' remedial needs have changed since the implementation of the MMC.
 - The percentage of students meeting the ACT benchmark standards for the 'combined' four areas (right most column) have increased almost every year. It shows fairly meaningful progress over the course of several years.
 - The percentage of students meeting the benchmarks for individual subject areas has increased as well, with the exception of Reading, which is fairly flat.
- While the changes seen here might be suggestive, one cannot attribute the changes to the MMC necessarily. Other factors could have been responsible for these changes.
- Most Michigan high school graduates are still not prepared for college-level coursework.
 - Not all students that take the ACT intend to enroll in college.
 - Comparing ACT data to national norms or other states without near-universal coverage will result in misleading comparisons.
 - Some of these scores represent students' first attempt at the ACT, not their final attempt, so their scores (and remedial needs) may change by the time they enroll.